



County Borough of Tynemouth

---

FIFTY-FIRST  
ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Medical Inspection and Treatment  
of School Children

1959





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## S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer	...	...	...	Roderick H. Dawson, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officers of Health	...	...	...	Margaret A. Loraine, B.SC., M.B., CH.B., D.C.H. G. MacAlister Dowson, M.B., B.S.
Principal Dental Officer			...	Richard W. Essenhigh, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officer			...	Mrs. L. M. Steele, B.D.S.
Speech Therapist		...	...	Miss Dorothy Dobie, L.C.S.T.
Consultant Ophthalmologists			...	J. S. Arkle, F.R.C.S. H. V. Ingram, O.B.E., M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Orthoptist	...	...	...	Miss Marilyn F. Brown, D.B.O. (Resigned 30/4/59)
Clerical Staff	...	...	...	Miss E. Harrison. Miss P. K. Coventry.

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF  
THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER  
FOR THE YEAR 1959**

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE,  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
PRESTON ROAD,  
NORTH SHIELDS.  
APRIL, 1960.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present to you the Fifty-first Annual Report upon the work of the School Health Service for the Year 1959, in the form required under Regulation 13 of the School Health Service and Handicapped Pupils Regulations 1953.

Dr. Loraine was responsible for the medical inspections in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School, and Lovaine House Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils, whilst Dr. Dowson carried out the periodic inspections and re-inspections in the Primary and Secondary Schools. Both held clinics in order to deal with special cases.

Two Consultant Ophthalmologists, Mr. H. Vernon Ingram and Mr. J. S. Arkle, visited the School Clinic at the Public Health Department every alternate week on a Thursday morning to carry out refraction and consultant work.

Miss Marilyn F. Brown, who was in charge of the Orthoptic Clinic held every Thursday under the direction of Mr. Arkle and Mr. Ingram, resigned her appointment on April 30th, and we have so far been unable to obtain the services of a successor. In consequence, children needing Orthoptic treatment have now to be referred to the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, which means more school time lost in travelling, and a longer waiting list for treatment. I should like here to express my sincere thanks to Miss Brown for the pleasant and efficient manner in which she has conducted the orthoptic clinic over the past four years.

Building commenced in April on the new Public Health Department and Clinic. This Centre, which it is hoped will be ready for occupation late in 1960, will house the School Dental Service and School Health Service as well as the Public Health Services.

Plans are also under consideration for the building of a new school for educationally sub-normal children, which will replace the present very old building in Lovaine Terrace, and will separate entirely the Special School for educationally sub-normal from the Open-Air School for delicate and physically handicapped, which formerly the public tended to confuse owing to their proximity to one another.

I am very glad to report that some progress is being made towards the establishment of an Occupation Centre, provision having been made in the estimates, and it is hoped that facilities will be available in the near future for mentally handicapped children needing this

amenity. Adults, as well as children, will be catered for in this new project.

In conclusion, I should like to express my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the School Health Services Sub-Committee, to the Chief Education Officer, and to the staff of this Department for their willing help and co-operation in the interests of the School Health Service, throughout the year.

R. H. DAWSON,  
*Medical Officer of Health and  
Principal School Medical Officer.*

### Schools in the Borough.

<i>Type of School</i>	<i>Number on Register in December 1959</i>					
County Primary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	6,061
Voluntary Primary ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	815
Secondary Modern ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3,235
Open-Air Day School for Delicate Children ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	90
Special School for Educationally Sub-normal Children ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	69
Tynemouth High (Grammar) School ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	805
Tynemouth Technical School ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	457
Total School Population ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	11,532

### School Clinics

#### DENTAL

One Dental Clinic was held at the Education Office, The Chase, North Shields, and another at the Royal Jubilee School, Albion Road, North Shields.

#### SPEECH THERAPY

This clinic was held daily in St. Oswin Infants School, Kielder Terrace, North Shields.

Other School Clinics were held at the Public Health Department, Preston Road, North Shields, on the following sessions:—

#### MEDICAL

Monday morning, Wednesday morning and afternoon.

#### REFRACTION

Thursday morning—alternate weeks.

#### ORTHOPTIC (January—April)

Thursday morning and afternoon.

#### ULTRA VIOLET LIGHT

Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

#### MINOR AILMENTS

Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, Thursday morning and Friday morning.

### Co-ordination

Arrangements in this area provide for continuity of supervision of the health of children from infancy to the end of school life, Maternal and Child Welfare Service records of pre-school children who had defects being transferred to the School Health Service when children reach the age of 5 years.



Co-ordination between the school health service, the Council's other services, the hospital services and general medical practitioners has been maintained.

### **Diphtheria Immunisation**

Facilities were again made available for diphtheria immunisation at the various Maternal and Child Welfare Centres of the Public Health Department, or at the surgeries of general medical practitioners.

During the year, 1,078 children received a complete course of injections, 96 being school children and 982 pre-school children. In addition, 514 children of all ages were given reinforcing injections.

It is estimated that at 31st December 1959, 77.28 per cent. of the child population (*i.e.*, children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 75.57 per cent. in 1958.

### **Poliomyelitis Vaccination**

During the year under review, 4,384 children born between 1st January 1943 and 31st December 1959, completed a course of two injections. Approximately 77% of this figure related to school children.

### **B.C.G. Vaccination**

The B.C.G. vaccination scheme launched in the closing months of 1958 was continued throughout 1959. As before, protection against tuberculosis was offered to all school children in the thirteen year old age group.

During the year under review 562 children were skin tested, and all the children with a negative reaction were vaccinated. The apparent increase in the percentage requiring protection, as shown in the following table, is of course fallacious, and due to the much larger numbers involved in the 1959 skin tests.

Year	Total Skin Tested	Positive Reaction	Negative Reaction	% requiring B.C.G. Protection
1958	70	13	57	81.43
1959	559	64	495	88.61

### **School Meals and Milk**

During 1959, one-day returns showing the number of children having school dinners were taken on 30th September.

The number of children taking meals was 3,234, of which 526 were free meals, the former figure being 29.53% of the school roll, and 2.38% higher than the previous year. The percentage taking school milk was 81.51, which showed a slight reduction.

The price of school meals remained at 1s. 0d. per meal, and during the year there was a steady increase in the number taking dinners, from 3,300 during the Spring and Summer Terms, to 3,700 towards the end of the Autumn Term.



Soft fruit was again very expensive, but rhubarb was bottled, and chutney (which is very popular with the older children) was made.

Miss D. Sowerby, School Meals Organiser, left the Tynemouth School Meals Service on 31st December 1959, to take up an appointment with the Staffordshire Education Committee.

During the coming year it is hoped to construct a scullery at Western Junior School and to improve facilities at King Edward School.

### Medical Inspections

A periodic medical inspection of children in the following age groups was carried out in each school.

- (a) ENTRANTS—children in their first year of attendance at a maintained primary infant school.
- (b) INTERMEDIATES—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained primary junior school.
- (c) LEAVERS—children in the last year of attendance at a maintained secondary school.
- (d) OTHERS—children of all ages in attendance at the Special School for educationally sub-normal children.

Prior to the periodic medical inspection of the children in these age groups, the schools were visited by a School Nurse/Health Visitor, who weighed and measured the children and tested the visual acuity of those in groups (b), (c) and (d). At the actual inspection the Medical Officer was accompanied by a Nurse. Parents were invited to be present at these inspections.

The percentage of parents who were present at periodic inspections was 68.07 as compared with 67.22 in 1958, and 76.4 in 1937.

Special inspections and re-inspections were also conducted in each school department once during the year.

### Findings of Medical Inspection

Periodic medical inspection of 3,266 children was carried out in school, and the general physical condition of all the children inspected was recorded as satisfactory. The defects found at periodic and special inspections can be seen in Table A on Page 20 of this report, which shows separately the number of pupils found to require treatment (T), and the number of pupils found to require observation (O).

The following table shows the average heights and weights of boy and girl entrants selected at intervals, over a period of years, since periodic medical inspection commenced.

AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS OF  
BOY AND GIRL ENTRANTS  
(5 year old age group)

Year	BOY ENTRANTS		GIRL ENTRANTS	
	Average Heights	Average Weights	Average Heights	Average Weights
	ft. ins.	lbs.	ft. ins.	lbs.
1909	3 3·7	37·9	3 3·5	37·5
1918	3 4·7	39·1	3 4·0	38·5
1927	3 5·2	40·1	3 5·0	38·5
1936	3 6·2	41·1	3 6·1	39·3
1945	3 7·0	40·2	3 7·0	41·3
1950	3 7·0	43·1	3 6·5	42·1
1954	3 7·3	43·9	3 6·7	41·7
1955	3 7·5	43·3	3 7·2	41·7
1956	3 7·5	44·1	3 6·9	41·1
1957	3 7·0	43·1	3 6·5	41·6
1958	3 6·7	43·5	3 6·0	41·9
1959	3 7·3	43·6	3 6·5	41·6

#### Uncleanliness—Head

- (i) GIRLS. Of the 1,606 girls examined at periodic inspection, 46 or 2.9 per cent. were recorded as having nits ; 7 or 0.4 per cent. of these had a minor infestation only. 1 child was found to be verminous.
- (ii) BOYS. Of the 1,660 boys examined at periodic inspection, 7 were recorded as having nits, 1 to a minor degree only.

#### Surprise Cleanliness Surveys

In 1959, 18,205 examinations for uncleanliness were made in the schools by the nursing staff. 685 pupils were found to be infested ; 507 of these pupils were issued with cleansing notices. The supervision and treatment of certain children, found to have dirty heads and referred to the School Clinic, was again carried out by the School Nurse at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

#### Follow Up Investigations

During the year the Health Visitors followed up 141 cases which were under observation or treatment. In this connection 198 home visits were made and 253 inspections were carried out in the schools.

#### Minor Ailments

Minor Ailment Clinics were conducted by a School Nurse on five sessions per week for the treatment of children referred by a Head Teacher or a Medical Officer with minor injuries, skin conditions, etc. 191 cases attended the Clinic, and made 654 attendances. This compares with 188 cases and 1,205 attendances in 1958, and 1,143 cases and 8,042 attendances in 1948.

#### Diseases of the Skin

69 children were recorded as having diseases of the skin. Those receiving treatment at the School Clinic included 29 cases of



scabies, and 1 case of ringworm of the body. Other cases, totalling 39, were attending private practitioners for treatment of dermatitis, impetigo, plantar warts and eczema.

### **Defective Vision and Squint**

The vision of first year entrants to Primary Junior Schools was tested by a Health Visitor or School Nurse, and any child suspected of having a visual defect was referred to a Medical Officer for further investigation.

During the year 222 Forms O.S.C. 10—as compared with 196 in 1958, and 129 in 1953—authorising the repair or replacement of spectacles, were issued by the School Medical Officers.

### **Eye Testing Clinic**

285 school children had their eyes tested by an Ophthalmic Surgeon at the School Clinic. Spectacles were prescribed for 247 of these children. We also have a record that 271 children had their eyes tested by opticians. Spectacles were prescribed for 214 of these.

### **Orthoptic Clinic**

This clinic was held for school children every Thursday, morning and afternoon from January to April this year, under the direction of Miss Marilyn F. Brown, Orthoptist.

Twelve new cases were registered during 1959, making a total of 111 children receiving treatment, of which number 29 were pre-school children. Thirteen children were discharged from the orthoptic clinic during the period January to April; of these 4 were cured, 3 were improved, 3 were found to be cosmetically satisfactory, and 3 patients left the district. In addition, the parents of one child refused treatment, and 24 children failed to attend when appointments were sent. The total attendances of all cases during 1959 amounted to 310.

Since May of this year 15 children have been referred to the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle, for orthoptic treatment by Mr. J. S. Arkle, after refraction at the School Clinic, North Shields.

### **Defective Hearing**

Children who required audiometric investigation were again referred to the Speech Therapist at the Local Authority's Speech Therapy Clinic and Audiology Centre, where, during the year, 10 children received audiometric tests.

We have a record of 13 children who have been provided with hearing aids.

### **Speech Therapy**

The following report has been submitted by Miss D. Dobie, the Speech Therapist, who is in charge of the Local Education Authority's Speech Therapy Clinic.

### SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC

During the year 180 children were treated at the Speech Therapy Clinic, their attendances totalling 2,132.

Of these, 103 were discharged after excellent progress, 29 were placed under review for periods ranging from 4 weeks to 6 months, 3 cases were suspended for a period, to allow time for growth of teeth, and in 1 case, treatment was discontinued to allow psychiatric treatment at Newcastle.

10 children received audiometer tests during the year, all showing some degree of deafness.

The number of articulatory defects treated was again high—102 children received treatment. 54 children were treated for stammering, 8 for retarded language development, 5 for dysarthria, and 1 for cleft palate speech.

Attendance during the year was good, parents being most co-operative and anxious to help their children.

The schools have again been most helpful in maintaining a close liaison between school and clinic.

It is unfortunate that the present waiting list is again a long one. 214 children are waiting for treatment.

DOROTHY DOBIE,  
*Speech Therapist.*

### Tonsillectomy

Below is shown the percentage of children who were examined as periodic medical inspections and who were recorded as having been subjected to tonsillectomy previous to the time of inspection

Age Group	Pupils Inspected		Number found to have had Tonsillectomy		Percentage found to have had Tonsillectomy	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Entrants ...	617	534	72	56	11·67	10·49
Intermediates ...	628	620	195	186	31·05	30·00
Leavers ...	378	415	103	104	27·25	25·06
Others ...	37	37	3	5	8·11	13·51
Totals ...	1660	1606	373	351	22·47	21·86

### Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

47 children were recorded as having received treatment for orthopaedic and postural defects, 30 as in-patients in hospital, and 17 as out-patients.

The in-patients received treatment as follows :—

For defects of spine	...	2
hips	...	5
legs	...	2
feet	...	10
Miscellaneous defects	...	11



Of the 17 out-patients, 6 were attending the Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital, 8 were attending the Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, and 3 received treatment at Preston Hospital.

### Other Defects Treated

Other defects treated, not falling into classification mentioned in Tables A to F may be seen by referring to Page 23, Table G. The 66 minor ailments treated included 27 minor injuries, 5 boils, 12 sunburn and 22 sores.

### Infectious Diseases

An extract from the Head Teachers' weekly returns of Infectious and Other Diseases for the past ten years is as follows :—

DISEASE	YEAR									
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	55	33	22	35	20	25	31	9	6	15
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	277	302	301	359	17	481	207	458	16	685
German Measles ...	28	21	500	36	22	21	1219	26	49	19
Whooping Cough ...	164	105	84	213	71	157	170	93	21	97
Chicken Pox	392	693	503	320	493	150	455	268	368	430
Mumps ...	20	881	181	336	123	342	256	40	544	168
Ringworm ...	16	17	11	6	10	10	9	7	4	1
Impetigo ...	16	23	21	19	87	223	130	53	44	34
Scabies ...	10	9	4	2	1	7	17	13	24	15
Verminous Conditions	7	14	9	10	9	12	3	8	11	13

From these figures it will be seen that there were several outbreaks of infectious diseases among school children during the year, the figure for measles being the highest recorded for many years.

### Ultra-Violet Ray Therapy

Courses of ultra-violet ray therapy were recommended for 156 children during 1959, 84 of these children being school children and 72 pre-school children.

The school children were treated for the following defects :—

Alopecia	...	...	...	3
Anorexia	...	...	...	1
Asthma ...	...	...	...	8
Blepharitis	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	6
Frequent colds and catarrh	...	...	...	12
General Debility	...	...	...	37
Glands ...	...	...	...	1
Respiratory infections...	...	...	...	12
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	3

### **School Dental Inspection and Treatment**

The following report on the dental inspection and treatment of school children has been submitted by Mr. R. W. Essenhig, Principal School Dental Officer :—

#### **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1959**

I have pleasure in submitting my Twenty-second Annual Report on the School Dental Inspections and Treatment for the year ending 31st December, 1959, this being the Thirty-fifth Annual Report.

The full statistics of the treatment undertaken during the year are to be found elsewhere in this publication and the following is a summary of the work at the Dental Clinics.

Routine Inspections in the Primary and Secondary Schools were carried out at intervals and a total of 7,774 children were examined. A further 749 children attended the Clinics as emergency cases making the total examined by the Dental Officers 8,523. During the year the usual routine treatments have been continued, the emphasis being laid on saving as many teeth as possible. Unfortunately, it has been necessary to perform many more extractions than are desirable, owing to the present poor condition of so many mouths. This state of dental decay is becoming a national concern, and our Dental Clinics have supplied and are continuing to supply Calcium products to the younger and pre-school children, in an endeavour to augment the modern foodstuffs, in which the natural salts are either missing, or are to be found to a negligible degree.

The Public Health Department was visited by one of our Officers once fortnightly, when expectant mothers and pre-school children were examined in co-operation with the Public Health Medical Staff. A total of 50 children and 9 adults were examined, and of this number 9 adults and 43 children received dental treatment.

As in previous years a considerable amount of Orthodontic work for the correction of misplaced teeth and other dental deformities has been undertaken and completed, principally by the Assistant School Dental Officer at the Jubilee School Dental Clinic. A total of 63 appliances fitted for this purpose and 48 artificial dentures inserted to replace missing teeth represents a good deal of useful work.

The general anaesthetic section under the supervision of Dr. J. R. Steadman continued to render a valuable service, and 943 operations were performed for the removal of carious teeth under anaesthetics.

The Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special School were visited during the year, and a total of 134 children were examined. The attendances for treatment by children from both these Schools numbered 133.

Pupils from Tynemouth High (Grammar) School and Tynemouth Technical School attended for treatment on 89 occasions.



The total Dental treatment for these pupils included 50 fillings, 37 extractions, 14 general anaesthetics and 13 other operations.

Other work at the Clinics included the scaling and cleaning of teeth and the treatment of gum diseases. A total of 1,016 operations of this nature were performed during the year.

In conclusion thanks are again due to the School Medical and Dental Staffs, the Dental Anaesthetist, the School Dental Attendants and the Teaching Staffs of all the Schools for their valued assistance at all times.

(Signed) RICHARD W. ESSENHIGH.  
*Principal School Dental Officer.*

### Handicapped Pupils

Below is shown the number of children in the various categories of "Handicapped Pupils" normally residing in the area of this Authority, who were receiving their education in special schools at the end of the year 1959.

Blind Pupils	...	...	5 in a residential school.
Deaf Pupils	...	...	4 in a residential school.
			5 in attendance as day pupils at a special school for the Deaf.
Delicate Pupils	...	...	61 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.
Physically Handicapped Pupils	...	...	16 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.
			2 in attendance as day pupils at a special school for spastic children.
			2 in a residential school.
Educationally Sub-Normal Pupils	...	...	68 in the Lovaine House Special Day School and
			1 in a residential school.
Maladjusted Pupils	...	...	2 in a residential school.
Epileptic Pupils	...	...	5 in the Tynemouth Open-Air Day School.

At the end of the year under review, 1 child was being educated in hospital, under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act 1944, and 17 children were on the registers of hospital special schools.

### Educationally Sub-Normal Children

During the year 24 children were referred by Head Teachers for mental testing by a School Medical Officer. Of these, 17 were assessed as being educationally sub-normal and recommended for admission to Lovaine House Special School, and 6 continued to attend ordinary schools, but were kept under observation by the School Medical Officer, who received progress reports upon their work from the Head Teachers concerned. 1 child was admitted to the Open-Air Day School, as it was felt that much of his trouble was due to long absences from school owing to ill health.

21 children were examined at the School Clinic under Section 57 of the Education Act 1944, and 11 were reported to the local health authority under Sub-section 3 of this Act, 1 was reported under Sub-section 4, and 9 were reported under Sub-section 5.

### **Tynemouth Open-Air Day School and Lovaine House Special Day School**

Regular visits were again made to the Open-Air Day School and to Lovaine House Special Day School by the Assistant Medical Officer of Health and a Health Visitor. 239 re-examinations were carried out by the Medical Officer, to check on children's progress and to ascertain if they were fit to return to an ordinary school.

I have pleasure in submitting the Reports of the Headmistress, Miss E. McRitchie, giving details of the work of the two Special Schools.

### **TYNEMOUTH OPEN-AIR DAY SCHOOL REPORT FOR 1959**

During the year 1959 the Open-Air School once again proved a valuable means of treating delicate children. The very fine summer was a boon, for it enabled the children to have many of their lessons outside.

With no changes in teaching or domestic staffs, I am able to report another year of quiet steady progress.

The year began with 88 names on the roll and ended with 89. The average number on the roll for the year was 88, and the average attendance was 74 or 84%.

27 children, 14 boys and 13 girls, were admitted and 2 girls were re-admitted. Of this number 17 were between the ages of 5 and 8 years, 11 between 8 and 11 years and 1 ~~only~~ over 11 years of age.

30 children, 19 boys and 11 girls, were discharged during the course of the year.

The ailments of the children who were admitted may be classified :—

Debility with or without accompanying defects	...	...	5
Bronchitis and/or Asthma	...	...	7
Recurrent respiratory infection and congenital heart	...	...	1
Emotional tension and disturbance	...	...	5
Burns with severe scarring	...	...	2
Anaemia	...	...	1
Congenital Rickets	...	...	1
Alopecia and Psoriasis	...	...	1
Perthe's hip disease	...	...	1
Bilateral Perthe's disease	...	...	1
Epileptic and speech defect	...	...	1
Old Poliomyelitis T.B. Contact (Re-admitted after hospital treatment)	...	...	1
T.B. Abdomen	...	...	1
Primary tuberculosis	...	...	1
Total	...	...	29



Children discharged during the year may be divided into the following groups :—

Transferred to Primary or Secondary Modern Schools as							
fit after medical examination	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Transferred to Lovaine House Day Special School	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Admitted to hospital for treatment...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Left district	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Left at school leaving age	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Deceased	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total							30

The duration of their stay in the Open-Air School was :—

<i>Length of stay</i>	<i>Number of children</i>						
10 to 11 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
9 to 10 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
8 to 9 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
7 to 8 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
6 to 7 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
5 to 6 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
4 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
3 to 4 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
2 to 3 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
1 to 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Total							30

Medical supervision of the children was again very well maintained by Dr. M. A. Loraine, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, and all the children were seen at least once every three months, and the more urgent cases much more frequently.

Several groups of children attended the Clinic for a course of Ultra Violet Light treatment at various times throughout the year. They were taken to and from the Clinic by Miss Wardhaugh, bath and bus attendant. This has proved to be a much more satisfactory arrangement than the previous one when children who required treatment were taken individually by parents.

Minor ailments of the children were attended to very efficiently in school by Nurse Buxton until July and later by Nurse Blagburn.

Postural drainage apparatus has been provided by the Education Committee and this has proved most beneficial to children suffering from chest complaints.

Children requiring emergency dental treatment received the usual prompt attention at the School Dental Clinic, and an annual routine inspection was carried out by Mr. Essenhigh, School Dental Officer.

There were no changes in the routine arrangements. Conveyance of children by bus, provision of meals, weekly bathing of some of the children, and fortnightly weighing of all except two of the very severely physically handicapped pupils were as before.

The five children who left school are, I am happy to report, all in suitable employment and appear to be doing quite well.

Once again I tender my sincere thanks to the Invalid Children's Association for a most generous supply of maltoline which helps so much in the restoration to good health of the more delicate pupils.

In July we were honoured to have a visit from Sir Edward Boyle, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education.

Among our other guests during the year were several groups of students from Teacher Training Colleges and also student nurses, all of whom appeared to enjoy their visits.

In conclusion, I record my appreciation of the excellent service rendered by the teaching and domestic staffs, and of their loyal co-operation so readily given.

E. McRITCHIE,  
*Headmistress.*

### LOVAINE HOUSE SPECIAL SCHOOL

#### REPORT FOR 1959

The year began with 68 children, 43 boys and 25 girls, on the roll.

During the year 15 children, 10 boys and 5 girls, were admitted.

18 children, 12 boys and 6 girls, were discharged for the following reasons :—

Left at the age of 16 years	...	...	...	...	...	9
Transferred to Secondary Modern School	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unable to benefit from further education	...	...	...	...	...	7
Transferred to an approved school	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						18

The average number on the roll was 69 and the average attendance 61 or 88.4%.

There was an age range of 6 years to 15 years. The following table shows the mental grades of the children who were on the roll at the end of the year :—

Intelligence Quotients	80 or over		70 to 79		60 to 69		50 to 59		Below 50	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number of children in each grade	4	2	15	4	9	9	14	9	Nil	
	6		19		18		23			

One girl has not yet been assessed owing to severe deafness and speech defect.

I am pleased to report a year of slow, but steady progress. A full staff, all of whom are keenly interested in Special School work, and no changes in staffing from September, 1958, to July 1959, have shown very satisfactory results. A very happy atmosphere has prevailed, and despite the educational sub-normality of the children, the routine is as smooth running as that of a normal school.

One of the male members of the teaching staff was granted a year's leave of absence from September 1959, in order to attend



a Course dealing with the teaching of Educationally Sub-normal children. He hopes to return to us after the Summer Holiday of 1960. His post was filled by a very efficient supply teacher.

Routine medical and dental inspections were carried out as usual, and minor ailments were treated in the Open-Air School Medical Room by the Health Visitor.

There were no changes in the routine arrangements of mid-day meals, milk under the Milk in Schools Scheme, and conveyance of children by bus.

During the year several former pupils visited us. Some of them were in remunerative employment and appeared to be doing fairly well.

One of the highlights of the year was the news that a new school to replace Lovaine House is to be included in the Building Programme for 1960-1961.

Once again I stress the need for an Occupation Centre in the Borough of Tynemouth for those children who are found to be ineducable and not fitted even for a Special School. How very much less difficult it would make the heartbreaking task of informing parents that their child is ineducable, if transfer to such a centre could be suggested to them.

In concluding this report I wish to place on record my very sincere thanks to all those connected with the school for their loyal co-operation and help throughout the year.

E. McRITCHIE,  
*Headmistress.*

### **Deaths of School Children**

During the year 8 deaths occurred among children of school age ; of these, 3 were due to malignant diseases, and 3 to heart conditions. The remaining 2 children died as the result of accidents, one of these being a road accident.

### **Tynemouth High (Grammar) School**

Periodic inspections were carried out in respect of 176 pupils in attendance at the Tynemouth High (Grammar) School, 88 pupils were also re-examined at the time of the School Medical Officer's visit to the school.

### **Nursery Schools**

Arrangements for the medical inspection of children attending the Sir James Knott Nursery School at Tynemouth, and the Howdon Road Nursery School at North Shields, continued as in past years.

The schools were again visited regularly by the Honorary Medical Officer, every child being seen once ; special cases were seen more frequently. The Health Visitors for the areas paid frequent visits to the two Nursery Schools, weekly when possible.

### **Miscellaneous Medical Examinations**

138 children were medically examined in accordance with the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 ; all were granted employment certificates.

## STATISTICAL TABLES

### MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS

Number of pupils on registers of maintained primary and secondary schools (including nursery and special schools) in January, as in Form 7, 7M. and 11 Schools ... .. 11,531

#### Part I.—Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)

TABLE A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth)	No. of Pupils Inspected	Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected			
		SATISFACTORY		UNSATISFACTORY	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
		(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1955 and later	—	—	—	—	—
1954	812	812	100	—	—
1953	338	338	100	—	—
1952	16	16	100	—	—
1951	12	12	100	—	—
1950	13	13	100	—	—
1949	10	10	100	—	—
1948	829	829	100	—	—
1947	419	419	100	—	—
1946	10	10	100	—	—
1945	14	14	100	—	—
1944 and earlier	793	793	100	—	—
TOTAL	3,266	3,266	100	—	—



TABLE B.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT AT  
PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS  
(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (By year of birth) (1)	For defective vision (excluding squint) (2)	For any of the other con- ditions recorded in Part II (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
1955 and later	—	—	—
1954	24	142	151
1953	9	55	56
1952	—	1	1
1951	—	2	2
1950	—	1	1
1949	—	—	—
1948	65	63	120
1947	33	28	59
1946	—	—	—
1945	—	—	—
1944 and earlier	59	43	98
TOTAL	190	335	488

TABLE C.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	...	572
Number of Re-inspections	...	1,785
Total	...	<u>2,357</u>

TABLE D.—INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(a)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons	...	...	18,205
(b)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	685	
(c)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act 1944)	...	507	
(d)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act 1944)	...	—	

## Part II.—Defects found by Medical Inspection during the Year

TABLE A.—PERIODIC INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS							
		Entrants		Leavers		Others		Total	
		(T) (3)	(O) (4)	(T) (5)	(O) (6)	(T) (7)	(O) (8)	(T) (9)	(O) (10)
(1)	(2)								
4	Skin ... ..	7	6	7	—	5	—	19	6
5	Eyes : <i>a.</i> Vision ...	31	—	57	—	97	—	185	—
	<i>b.</i> Squint ...	26	2	2	—	—	—	28	2
	<i>c.</i> Other... ..	1	2	1	—	5	1	7	3
6	Ears : <i>a.</i> Hearing ...	1	1	6	—	1	—	8	1
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media ...	4	2	2	—	4	1	10	3
	<i>c.</i> Other... ..	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	2
7	Nose and Throat ...	58	23	2	5	12	12	72	40
8	Speech ... ..	15	—	2	—	2	—	19	—
9	Lymphatic Glands ...	—	4	1	1	—	1	1	6
10	Heart ... ..	2	3	—	1	2	—	4	4
11	Lungs ... ..	6	7	3	—	4	1	13	8
12	Developmental :								
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other... ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
13	Orthopaedic :								
	<i>a.</i> Posture ...	—	1	1	—	4	—	5	1
	<i>b.</i> Feet ... ..	4	5	7	—	17	4	28	9
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	6	—	3	2	2	1	11	3
14	Nervous System :								
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy ...	—	—	3	—	1	—	4	—
	<i>b.</i> Other... ..	6	3	—	—	6	1	12	4
15	Psychological :								
	<i>a.</i> Development ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Stability ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Abdomen ... ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2
17	Other ... ..	—	1	—	—	6	2	6	3

TABLE B.—SPECIAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)	SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		Pupils requiring Treatment (3)	Pupils requiring Observation (4)
4	Skin ... ..	39	—
5	Eyes : <i>a.</i> Vision ... ..	122	3
	<i>b.</i> Squint ... ..	8	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	5	—
6	Ears : <i>a.</i> Hearing ... ..	11	—
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media ... ..	5	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	1	—
7	Nose and Throat ... ..	19	—
8	Speech ... ..	6	—
9	Lymphatic Glands ... ..	5	—
10	Heart ... ..	2	—
11	Lungs ... ..	20	1
12	Developmental :		
	<i>a.</i> Hernia ... ..	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	1	—
13	Orthopaedic :		
	<i>a.</i> Posture ... ..	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Feet ... ..	2	—
	<i>c.</i> Other ... ..	6	—
14	Nervous System :		
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy ... ..	—	—
	<i>b.</i> Other ... ..	13	—
15	Psychological :		
	<i>a.</i> Development ... ..	21	6
	<i>b.</i> Stability ... ..	6	—
16	Abdomen ... ..	4	—
17	Other ... ..	13	—

**Part III.—Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Nursery and Special Schools)**

TABLE A.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ... ..	6
Errors of refraction (including squint) ... ..	633
Total ... ..	639
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed ... ..	497

TABLE B.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
Received operative treatment—	
(a) for diseases of the ear ...	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis ... ..	150
(c) for other nose and throat conditions ... ..	3
Received other forms of treat- ment ... ..	40
Total ... ..	<u>193</u>
Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids :	
(a) in 1959	5
(b) in previous years	8

TABLE C.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

	Number of cases known to have been treated
(a) Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments ...	47
(b) Pupils treated at school for postural defects ... ..	—
Total ... ..	<u>47</u>

TABLE D.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN  
(excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table D of Part I)

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Ringworm : (a) Scalp ... ..	—
(b) Body ... ..	1
Scabies ... ..	30
Impetigo ... ..	—
Other skin diseases ... ..	38
Total ... ..	<u>69</u>



TABLE E.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics ... ..	2

TABLE F.—SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases known to have been treated
Pupils treated by speech therapists	170

TABLE G.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases known to have been dealt with
(a) Pupils with minor ailments	66
(b) Pupils who received con- valescent treatment under School Health Service arrangements ... ..	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ... ..	495
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above: Please specify:	
Abdominal Conditions ...	6
Cardio Vascular and Blood Cns. ... ..	4
Respiratory Conditions ...	14
Nervous System ... ..	11
Miscellaneous ... ..	62
Total (a)—(d) ...	658

**Part IV.—Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority**

(1)	Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—						
	(a) At Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	...	7,774	
	(b) As Specials	...	...	...	...	749	
					Total (1)	8,523	
(2)	Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	4,209	
(3)	Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	3,740	
(4)	Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	2,390	
(5)	Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, including those recorded at 11 (h)	...	...	...	...	5,327	
(6)	Half days devoted to :—						
	(a) Periodic (School) Inspection	...	...	...	...	39	
	(b) Treatment	...	...	...	...	915	
					Total (6)	954	
(7)	Fillings :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	2,310	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	41	
					Total (7)	2,351	
(8)	Number of Teeth filled :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,934	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	38	
					Total (8)	1,972	
(9)	Extractions :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	855	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	1,863	
					Total (9)	2,718	
(10)	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...			943	
(11)	Orthodontics :						
	(a) Cases commenced during the year	...	...	...		43	
	(b) Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...		17	
	(c) Cases completed during the year	...	...	...		27	
	(d) Cases discontinued during the year	...	...	...		10	
	(e) Pupils treated with appliances	...	...	...		64	
	(f) Removable appliances fitted	...	...	...		63	
	(g) Fixed appliances fitted	...	...	...		1	
	(h) Total attendances	...	...	...		348	
(12)	Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth	...	...			48	
(13)	Other operations :						
	(a) Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	752	
	(b) Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	264	
					Total (13)	1,016	